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petal-bearing flowers were as perfectly fertilized in the unexpanded corollas as were the cleistogene flowers. But he was prepared to expect different results elsewhere.

SEPTEMBER 28.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Thirty-four persons present.

The following papers were presented for publication in the Journal:

"The Parasites of the Termites," by Jos. Leidy, M. D.

"Remarks on *Bathynathus borealis*," by Jos. Leidy, M. D.

OCTOBER 5.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Thirty-two persons present.

The death of James C. Fisher, M. D., a member, was announced.

Sexual Variation in Castanea Americana, Michx.—ISAAC C. MARTINDALE stated he had recently visited Pitman Grove, Gloucester Co., New Jersey, in order to examine some chestnut trees growing there, and remarked that it was well known there are but two species of chestnut trees in this country, the chinquapin, *Castanea pumila*, found occasionally in New Jersey, and abundantly further south, and the common chestnut, *Castanea Americana*. The chinquapin attains the height here of ten to twelve feet, being a shrub rather than a tree. In Maryland, Virginia and North Carolina, it often reaches four times that height, and becomes nearly a foot in diameter. It is from those States that most of the chinquapins found in our markets come. The burs contain but a single nut, and it quite small, but as a cluster of five or six together is not unfrequent, nearly as many chinquapins may be found on a branch, as chestnuts on the common chestnut trees. The leaves of the dwarf chestnut, as it is sometimes called, are woolly underneath, even in their mature condition, while on the other they become green on both sides as they reach full size.

A peculiar feature in the flowering of the chestnut, namely, that the trees bear two sets of flowers, was pointed out by Thomas Meehan, of the *Gardener's Monthly*, a close observer of vegetable growths, more than a year ago. His observations are recorded in the Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, for the year 1879. It may not be difficult for any one to recall the manner of the inflorescence, which consists of the